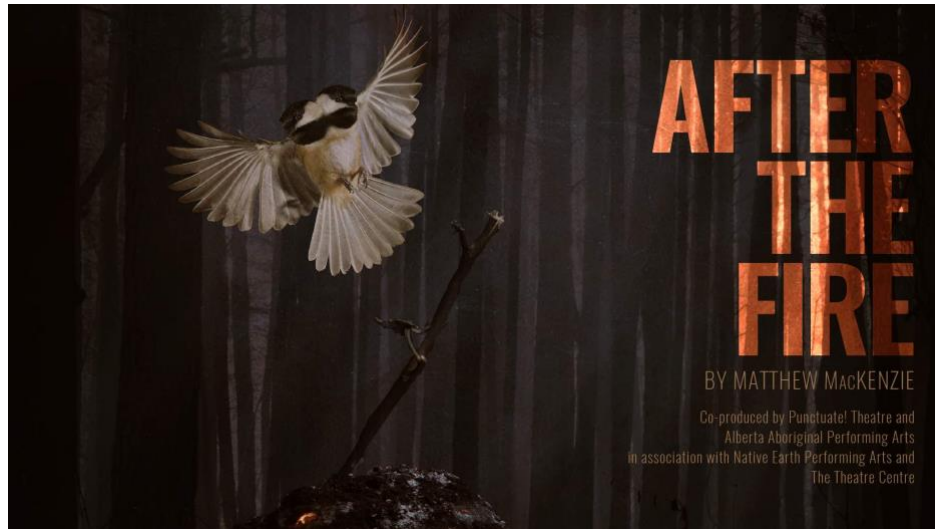


For Immediate Release: December 5, 2018 • Please add to your listings/announcement



World Premiere!
AFTER THE FIRE
Written by Matthew MacKenzie
Directed by Brendan McMurtry-Howlett
Co-Produced by Punctuate! Theatre and
Alberta Aboriginal Performing Arts
in association with
Native Earth Performing Arts and The Theatre Centre
The Theatre Centre, January 10-19, 2019

Playwright **Matthew MacKenzie** returns to The Theatre Centre with the world premiere of **AFTER THE FIRE**, directed by **Brendan McMurtry-Howlett** and featuring **Sheldon Elter**, January 10-19, 2019 for nine performances only. **AFTER THE FIRE** is being presented at the same time one year after the world premiere of MacKenzie's award-winning **Bears** took Toronto by storm.

Set in the aftermath of the 2016 summer wildfire that nearly destroyed Fort McMurray, **AFTER THE FIRE** is a dark mystery that slowly reveals how two couple's lives are so deeply affected by the disaster. This Indigenous-led, new Canadian work raises vital questions about the continued industrial development in Fort McMurray despite the devastating impact on the people and the environment.

Director **Brendan McMurtry-Howlett** (founding Artistic Director Shakespeare in the Ruff) leads a quartet of actors including **Sheldon Elter** (*Bears*) as Barry; **Jesse Gervais** (*The 4th Graders Present an Unnamed Love-Suicide*) as Ty; **Louise Lambert** (*Evangeline*) as Carmell; and **Kaitlyn Riordan** (*Portia's Julius Ceasar*) as Laura.

Last season, **Bears** sold-out in Toronto and across the country, receiving glowing reviews for its unapologetic and imaginative approach to pipeline politics. **Bears** won two Dora Awards for Outstanding Independent Production and Outstanding New Play; co-won the Toronto Theatre Critics' award for best new Canadian play; and the Carol Bolt National Playwriting Award. **Bears**, which continues to tour, will be presented by Toronto's Factory Theatre beginning in February 2019.

AFTER THE FIRE offers a different approach in MacKenzie's examination of fossil fuel addiction: focusing on how the exploitation of non-renewable resources affects the Fort McMurray families whose livelihoods rely on it.

World Premiere!

AFTER THE FIRE

Written by Matthew MacKenzie

Directed by Brendan McMurtry-Howlett

Featuring Sheldon Elter, Jesse Gervais, Louise Lambert, Kaitlyn Riordan

Sound Designer Dean Musani

Set and Costume Designer Alison Yanota

Lighting Designer Kaileigh Krysztofiak

Stage Manager Natasha Bean-Smith

Artistic Producer Christine Sokaymoh Frederick

Co-Produced by Punctuate! Theatre and

Alberta Aboriginal Performing Arts

in association with

Native Earth Performing Arts and The Theatre Centre

The Theatre Centre, Franco Boni Theatre, 1115 Queen Street West

January 10-19, 2018 (dark Sunday, January 13)

All performances at 8pm

Opening Night: Thursday, January 10, 2019 @ 8pm

Tickets: \$25/adults, \$17/students, seniors, arts workers

(service charges may apply)

Pay-What-You-Can, in person at the box office on Tuesday, January 15

Purchase online at www.theatrecentre.org, in person at the box office, or call 416.538.0988

Social Media

[FB/PunctuateTheatre/](https://www.facebook.com/PunctuateTheatre/) • [@PunctuateTheatr](https://www.instagram.com/PunctuateTheatre) • [INSTA/PunctuateTheatre](https://www.instagram.com/PunctuateTheatre)

[FB/AlbertaAboriginalArts](https://www.facebook.com/AlbertaAboriginalArts) • [@ABAboriginalArt](https://www.instagram.com/ABAboriginalArt)

[FB/NativeEarthPerformingArts](https://www.facebook.com/NativeEarthPerformingArts) • [@NativeEarth](https://www.instagram.com/NativeEarth) • [INSTA/NativeEarthPerformingArts](https://www.instagram.com/NativeEarthPerformingArts)

[FB/TheTheatreCentre](https://www.facebook.com/TheTheatreCentre) • [@TheatreCentre](https://www.instagram.com/TheatreCentre) • [INSTA/TheTheatreCentre](https://www.instagram.com/TheTheatreCentre)

#AfterTheFireTO

Media Contact: [FLIP PUBLICITY](http://FLIPPUBLICITY.com), 416.533.7710, Carrie Sager, carrie@flip-publicity.com